





TheHighlander

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FREE



HHHS aims to eliminate deficit next year

By Mike Baker

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) president and CEO Veronica Nelson has expressed confidence in the organization balancing its books by spring 2025.

Speaking at HHHS' annual general meeting June 27, Nelson said the local health service ended its 2023/24 fiscal year March 31 with

a \$2.3 million operational deficit – down from \$4.2 million at the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year.

Having found \$1.9 million in savings over the past 12 months, Nelson said she and the board have a plan to eliminate HHHS' working debt for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. "We anticipate getting very close to balanced at the end of this fiscal year," Nelson said. "We have been doing an incredible amount of advocacy with Ontario Health, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Long-Term Care. Everybody knows what Haliburton is saying – they're tired of hearing my story... I'm expecting some additional relief and a good adjustment to our [funding] problem that we've had for several years"

New chief financial officer, Ulvi Iskhagi-Bayat, said HHHS' revenues increased by \$3.2 million last year, though expenses went up \$1.9 million. The organization's capital

Continued 'Demand' on page 2



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Demand for services poised to grow

Continued from page 1

deficit, largely accounting for planned facility upgrades and equipment purchases, now sits at \$6.5 million – up from \$4.5 million.

The repealing of Bill 124 – legislation introduced by the Ford government in 2019 to cap wage increases for healthcare workers to one per cent annually but deemed unconstitutional by the Ontario Appeal Court in February – cost HHHS approximately \$3.5 million, though new board chair, Irene Odell, said the province funded 85 per cent.

Changes to the board makeup was announced at the meeting, where it was decided there should be 16 to 18 sitting members.

Odell announced seven board members are returning to complete already committed terms, John Herald and Don Pierson were reappointed for three-year terms, Michael Tambosso appointed as a new member for one year, Dr. Connie Phillipson for two years, and Dr. Clifford Ottaway and Al Aubry for three years.

Nelson confirmed she, chief of staff Dr. Keith Hay, and chief nursing executive Jennifer Burns-West, also sit on the board. while the County of Haliburton's two sitting representatives for the year were confirmed as warden and Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen and Dysart et al mayor Murray

Year in statistics

Despite the shuttering of the Minden emergency department last summer, Nelson said more patients are being treated at HHHS facilities – accounting for services provided by the Kawartha North Family Health Team. Para-Med, and SE Health through the urgent

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care and community nursing clinics.

The number of emergency department visits dropped 29 per cent, down to 17,480 in 2023/24 from 24,701 the previous year. There were 4,479 urgent care clinic visits and 515 community nursing clinic visits – though Nelson noted these are partial numbers, with both services only available for part of the fiscal year.

She noted increases in total patient admissions, up 12 per cent, and number of days spent in the hospital, up to 5,116 from 4,549. Occupancy for the 15 inpatient beds at the Haliburton hospital was 93.2 per cent for the vear.

"That means the patients we're seeing are sicker and need more care than just an emergency visit," Nelson said, noting the Haliburton site is currently at 146 per cent occupancy.

There were increases across the board in diagnostics – the number of X-ray exams increased 28 per cent (10,440 from 8,138), ultrasound exams up 19 per cent (2,054 from 1,731), echocardiography exams up 117 per cent (405 from 187) and bone density exams up eight per cent (492 from 457).

Nurses completed 30,311 point of care tests, up 24 per cent, and sent a further 10,592 blood tests to the regional lab in Peterborough, an increase of 14 per cent.

The hospital also recorded 1,865 mental health and addictions visits, 2,554 geriatric assessment and intervention network (GAIN) visits and assisted 1,842 diabetes patients. Another 765 people received physiotherapy

It was a busy year for the HHHS community support services team, Nelson noted. The operation helped 462 clients attend 9,554 appointments last year, while 21,400 meals were delivered via the Meals

> on Wheels initiative. There were 492 hospice client visits, and 650 footcare clinic appointments.

Clients received 18,235 hours of care through the assisted living, supportive housing, and adult day program initiatives.

HHHS Foundation executive director, Melanie Klodt Wong, said the Highlands community made 1,809 donations throughout the year, with



Veronica Nelson is aiming to eliminate the HHHS' operational deficit next year. File.

\$607,236 transferred to HHHS for things like automated IV pumps, which automatically deliver medication to patients – eliminating

What the future holds

Nelson said she wants to build on the momentum HHHS has developed over the past 12 months.

After hiring 80 new staff last year, reducing the reliance on agency staff to near zero, Nelson said she expects that pattern to continue. Updated hiring practices allowed HHHS to bring new staff in up to two months quicker than before.

"In Q1, hiring took 84 days. By Q4, we had reduced it to 35 days," Nelson said.

She noted a new five-year strategic plan and multi-year master plan outline clear targets for HHHS future growth. Projections for the 2049/50 fiscal year - 25 years away see HHHS more than doubling its capacity in some areas.

They're anticipating the number of

emergency visits increasing approximately 15 per cent, though inpatient admissions are expected to grow to 1,163 – an approximate 120 per cent increase, with the number of diagnostic exams expected to spike to 31,556 from 13,350.

Nelson said the master plan projects an increase in inpatient beds at HHHS over the next 25 years, up to 41 from 15, while the number of long-term care beds is expected to grow from 92 to 256.

Asked if HHHS can handle this anticipated increased workload at its current facilities, Nelson said it's too early to tell.

"We have submitted our pre-capital submission on our master plan to the ministry. That's basically telling them we want to plan... they've asked that question too. How do we get ready for 25 years from now? We do it together with our community. We figure out what we do today that we're going to need 25 years from now," Nelson said, noting there will be extensive community consultation to "map for the

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Plan to reconfigure Haliburton landfill tabled

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al council has learned a planned redesign of the Haliburton landfill could set the municipality back between \$4 million and \$6 million - though no official costing estimate has been secured.

John Watson, the township's environmental manager, shared an early rendering of a potential redesign June 25, which included the demolition of an existing storage structure and installation of a weigh scale, new attendant kiosk, and additional waste and recycling drop-off spots at the Haliburton site. The plan also called for the entrance to the landfill to be relocated further along Industrial Park Road.

The existing site entrance, Watson said, would be repurposed into a reuse centre with separate entry to be managed by a local non-

Under this plan, the Haliburton landfill would become the only site in Dysart where people can dispose of construction and demolition (C&D) waste, Watson said. He proposed extending the landfill's operating hours, to be open seven days per week.

Watson noted the project would be a second phase to work completed in 2020, when the township capped the landfill - which was at the end of its life - and redesignated it a transfer station.

"This is the first iteration for council to look at – my recommendation is we present this design to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for their review. Construction, if this is to proceed, would take place over three years, with the first phase moving the public drop-off area. that would happen in 2025," Watson said.

Coun. Pat Casey asked if Watson had any solid numbers regarding cost. Watson said he didn't. Instead, he discussed projects elsewhere in the County – at the Maple Lake transfer station in Algonquin Highlands and Scotch Line landfill in Minden Hills.

Those redevelopments cost in the ballpark of \$1.5 million and \$2 million, Watson said. He added those projects were easier to do, since the contractors did much of the work on stable, vacant land, and were roughly half the size of the Haliburton rebuild.

"The Haliburton landfill, most of that site has garbage underneath it. So, anything we build is going to need to be engineered to deal with the shifting ground underneath the land," Watson said.

When Casey surmised the cost would be more than double then – at between \$4 million and \$6 million, Watson didn't

Deputy mayor Walt McKechnie said he didn't even want to think about investing those sums.

"I think we can come up with another plan that's maybe not as good as this one, but something that would still work. We're talking a lot of money here," McKechnie

Watson suggested the weigh scale could instead be installed at the West Guilford landfill, with all C&D waste directed there. Council felt that was a better solution, especially if it meant not having to re-engineer the Haliburton landfill. Watson said no matter what council decides, some money will need to be spent upgrading the Haliburton site, for safety reasons.

"We had a retaining wall collapse at the garbage area last week. It happened when the site was closed to the public. Partially, it's because of frost in the ground, but it's also because there's not a secure base in the ground there. It will take some engineering, some concrete to make sure the area we build for public drop off is safely accessible,' Watson said.



John Watson tabled a first draft redesign of the Haliburton landfill to Dysart council June 25.

Casey asked if the project – installation of weigh scales at West Guilford and upgrades at Haliburton - could be done for between \$500,000 and \$1 million. Public works director, Rob Camelon, said staff will investigate.

Watson said any proposal for the West Guilford landfill, utilizing vacant land the township owns, would first need to be approved by the MECP. It was suggested, too, that West Guilford would become a C&D drop-off site only. People with residential waste would be directed to Haliburton.

Coun. Carm Sawyer, who represents West Guilford, wanted to see regular waste and recycling disposal continue. Staff said it would provide a list of options, and costs, to council later this year.

United Way and Boshkung brew an idea

United Way City of Kawartha Lakes is raising funds by launching a partnership with Boshkung Brewing Company in

"All money raised will support our vital local programs and services, which helps people in our community to reach their full potential," United Way said July 2.

Co-executive director Emily Beall added, "United Way CKL would like to extend an invitation to the launch of this partnership July 10 at our food security farm, Edwin Binney's Community Farm & Education Centre [in Lindsay]. We are thrilled to enter into this partnership with such a wonderful

business in our region."

It's at 15 Mary St. W., Lindsay in the lot next to Crayola Canada from 2:30 - 4:30

The event is open to the public to drop in to the farm to meet the brewers of Boshkung, see the reveal of the can design, taste a sample, and purchase cans.

The beer being released is a light lager,

titled "Paddle with Purpose" which is a nod to Boshkung's roots in cottage country and the mission of UWCKL to build a strong community and improve lives throughout Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, Beall said.

The cans are available for purchase allyear long at Boshkung's main location at 20 Water St. in Minden. (Lisa Gervais).

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4 Highlander news



at the Haliburton Legion. Heather Hume, one of the organizers, said it's "interesting to seniors in the area because it allows them to hear from different people, we call them vendors, they're not selling anything,

we bring in groups that are important

to them in their day-to-day life.' Members of the OPP were on hand to give a presentation on fraud and scams. Community legal clinics were also available. Booths included the Canada Revenue Agency, to talk about tax clinics and filing services. Service

community groups and learn about local programs. For almost 20 years. these seminars have offered great resources to our beloved seniors.'

Above: Christine Keenan of the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team at the seniors' seminar. Right: Tina Hadley of the Haliburton & District Lions Club promoting the local chapter at the seniors' seminar. Photos by Lillie Qiu.



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UPCOMING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

Our next household hazardous waste event is taking place July 6 from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena & Complex.

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is pleased to welcome back artist Michèle Karch-Ackerman with her new exhibit Flower Orphanage. The exhibit is on display until August 17. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Visit the online calendar on our website for more information.
- The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are now open for the season, Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am 4 pm. Join us for daily tours and drop-in programs including *Adventure Maps* on Wed. July 3 at 2 pm, Friday Creamery making homemade ice cream on Fri., July 5 at 2 pm and Cursive Writing in the historic schoolhouse on Sat., July 6 at 11 am. No pre-registration is required. Admission is by donation.

 • UFO Group Alert! Let's tackle our UnFinished Objects together! Bring your
- projects and get ready to craft and create. The next meeting will be July 5 from 10 am - 12 pm at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

For more information on all the programs and exhibits at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

WATCH FOR WORKERS

Construction season is he ruction season is here. Keeping a work site safe includes everyone down and watch for workers when approaching road work sites.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

and Closed Session meetings are currently conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers) Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- July 25 Regular Council Meeting
- August 8 Regular Council Meeting

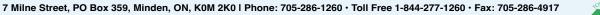
Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at

https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Visit our website for more information.

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Council to let Boshkung party in summer

By Lisa Gervais

Boshkung Brewing owner Mathew Renda expressed his "disappointment" on June 27 with a council decision two weeks prior to deny his request to close off a portion of Water Street for 10th anniversary celebrations.

The craft brewery was hoping to extend its patio onto the street facing the Gull River for a July 6 party. However, councillors deemed the day was simply too busy to accommodate Boshkung's request. Instead, they suggested using St. Germaine Street, or having the event switched to the fall.

A "disheartened" Renda said, "Boshkung has been a cornerstone of Haliburton County for 10 years and has called Minden home since 2019. We bring thousands of visitors to our struggling community annually. As a nationally and provincially awardwinning brewery employing over 40 staff, we contribute significantly to the local economy."

He added, "our donations to numerous local charities and organizations further demonstrate our commitment to this community. Boshkung provides Minden with a vibrant atmosphere that is sorely needed."

He said they had been hoping to celebrate a major milestone and give back to the community and loyal supporters via the event.

"We understand July is a busy time, but we planned this specifically to leverage the increased foot traffic and the presence of cottagers. Our staffing levels are at their peak. I struggle to understand why the town would allow other organizations and charities to close roads during the summer but not us. These are the very organizations and charities that benefit from the profits of our business and our annual donations."

Using St. Germaine, "which is full of potholes, residential homes, and a trucking yard, and affects all our parking, is simply not viable," he added.

"We have a beautiful river in Minden we love to showcase, along with a patio we've invested significant effort into."

While hosting an event in the fall was feasible, he said it was far from ideal. They already host autumn events, such as Oktoberfest, but lose customers and staff.

"I feel none of this was considered in



Mathew Renda and Mike Rae, co-owners of Boshkung Brewing. File.

the decision. We are trying to build a thriving business community in this town. As a board member of the chamber, I am constantly working to do more for Minden. Decisions like this not only hurt the business community but also the already struggling town," Renda said.

Coun. Shirley Johannessen was quick to jump in.

"Local businesses play a crucial role in building up communities. The smaller businesses rely on the patronage of local residents, and in our case, cottagers in the busy months to keep them afloat within the down time the rest of the year," she said.

She added, "Boshkung is a business that is celebrating 10 years of commercial success, employing 50 people within our County. I believe the options that we had set forward are not favourable for this event. I believe our staff had no concerns other than the parking, which I believe is manageable, and the temporary patio.

"We should be celebrating with them, and we need to show other businesses that we will support them in the same manner they're asking for what others have received." She called for a motion to reconsider. Deputy mayor Lisa Schell and councillors Bob Sisson and Pam Sayne echoed her sentiment.

Renda said, unfortunately, it was too short notice to revise Saturday's planned event, as they had cancelled temporary fencing and let MP Jamie Schmale and MPP Laurie Scott know they were not going ahead.

Council then decided that Renda could work with staff on an alternate summer date. Renda said, "I'm just willing to work as much as we can to make it a community event."



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DYSART ET AL NEWS

Wig demo in the air

Months-long environmental and speciesat-risk assessments at the Wigamog Inn property wrapped up at the end of June, with Dysart et al waiting to hear if demolition of the dilapidated site can proceed.

Hailey Cole, a bylaw officer with the township, informed council June 25 she recently visited the site to prepare herself for the file potentially reopening. She said she walked the property to make sure owners, Aurora Group, were following through with promises to keep the main lodge and remaining outbuildings secure. She said everything, "seemed locked up tight."

Demolition began last April, pausing in the fall after the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) launched an investigation after it was claimed at-risk species have been spotted on the property.

Gary Wheeler, MECP spokesperson, said the chimney swift, eastern whip-poor-will, Blanding's turtle, eastern hog-nosed snake and endangered bats were all claimed to have habitats in the area.

Cole said private contractor Pinchin Environmental was hired to complete the assessment. Results were submitted to the ministry at the end of June.

"I believe it's a particular type of bat they're focusing on now. If it's not found, [demolition] should be ready to proceed in July," Cole said, noting if evidence is found more assessments will be required, further delaying the project.

Going to the panel

Council has supported and contributed \$1,000 towards the installation of historical panels at Eagle Lake Beach recounting the community's settlement and early growth.

The project was headed up by the Eagle Lake Women's Society. One panel goes into depth on the hamlet's history, beginning in 1869 when the first British settlers arrived. Others focus on how Eagle Lake became the rhubarb capital of Ontario, a profile on the International Cooperage Company and the role it played in the area from 1933 to 1954, and a retelling of how the women's society came to be, and their contributions over the

Andrea Mueller, Dysart's manager of programs and events, said the society is planning a celebration on July 20 and wants to have the panels installed by then.

In total, the township has contributed \$2,500 – after previously dedicating \$1,500 from the cultural resources committee budget.

Fees waived

The township has waived \$850 in user fees for Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre to utilize Head Lake Park for its annual arts and craft festival.

Laurie Jones, executive director at Rails End, wrote a letter to council asking them to waive the charge, saying the three-day event running July 26 to 28 – is a big moneymaker for many downtown businesses.



The Wigamog Inn has been in a state of demolition for 15 months. File

She said last year's event had an economic impact of \$1.495 million, as reported by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and

She said all proceeds raised through the festival supports operating costs at the gallery, including staffing, equipment costs, and program delivery.

In May, council signed off on a new bylaw establishing rates for user groups who want to host events in the park. It was determined users should pay \$250 per day to use the park, \$100 per day to use the bandshell for two hours or longer, and a \$100 application fee. Local service clubs, such as Haliburton Rotary and the Lions Club of Haliburton, are

Council agreed to waive the fee this year, since the event had already been organized before the new rules came into effect, but said fees would be levied next year.

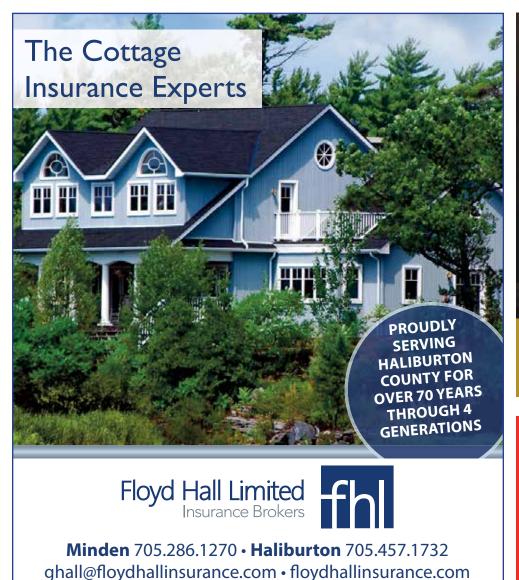
Requests from Ski-Mazing Watersports School to use the Haliburton Lake beach to launch boats for activities July 5, 12, and 19, and Lakeside Baptist Church to use the bandshell for a Sunday evening in July, August, and September were approved.

Pau the toll

The Haliburton and District Lions Club will host its annual toll bridge event in Haliburton

The fundraiser brings money in to support Lions events and causes in the County.

Volunteers will be in the vicinity of the bridge on Maple Avenue between Victoria Street and York Street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Dysart et al briefs compiled by Mike Baker).





GET YOUR NEWS AT THEHIGHLANDER.CA

IT strategy would improve customer satisfaction

Bv Lisa Gervais

The County of Haliburton hired a consultant for an IT digital strategy — and what that means for the public is a focus on customers, with a goal of making their experience, "simple, easy, and consistent."

This will resonate with people paying taxes, getting development approvals, licenses and permits, registering for recreation programs, and simply getting their questions answered.

Perry Group Consulting presented its findings, and recommendations, during a June 26 council meeting.

Ben Perry said, "since COVID 19, when people were forced to use online services, customers have learned and now want online convenience. A significant portion of customers want to interact online. A recent ICCS study shows that over 76 per cent of Canadians have interacted and prefer to interact with their governments."

He added, "in Haliburton County, where there is a significant portion of second homes, the ability to interact online is considered critically important."

He noted technology can help municipalities with their work, for example, using connected sensors, or vehicle-mounted cameras, to monitor roadway conditions, water leaks, and even full garbage cans.

Perry said technology, when done right, can make things more efficient and better. It can also be cheaper, with Perry saying face-to-face interactions cost \$15-30, phone \$5 but online \$1. The strategy emanated from the services delivery review.

He said good IT can reduce the turnaround on development approvals, speed up the number of building inspections and work orders, and reduce customer complaints. Not investing in IT can waste taxpayer dollars.

In surveying staff, Perry said they are satisfied with devices, connectivity and user support but only 64 per cent are satisfied with current online services, "suggesting a need for better online service delivery and technology training to enhance digital experience and customer service."

He said while most municipalities are pushing more services online, it's largely limited to PDF forms. "End-to-end digital processes for planning applications, service requests, and complaints are absent. There's a need for improvement in social media management, alerts and subscriptions, engagement, and ideation."

He said they could add five positions across the County (for the five governments and



Service desk supervisor, Marc Jones, getting ready to start YouTube livestreaming a council meeting. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*.

library service) and are not spending enough on IT.

Perry said the challenge is customers expect speed, convenience, and online access, available from anywhere 24/7/365 to municipal services that are on par with their bank, the retailers they deal with, the CRA or renewing a driver's licence.

He suggested a budget impact of about \$240,000 into 2026, which would include hiring two staff at the County, and part-time IT people for Minden Hills and Highlands East.

Warden Liz Danielsen said she was all for, "making life easier and hopefully less expensive for all of our taxpayers."

Coun. Murray Fearrey asked, with each township at a different stage of its IT, how would they get on the same page? Director of IT, Mike March said, "we pick a solution, and then eventually, when time comes,

everybody aligns with it." Fearrey said if they can be assured there are cost savings in IT spending, it will be an easier sell.

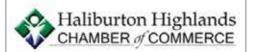
Coun. Bob Carter said "in trying to get all sorts of people to agree on something, as we have witnessed many times in the County, that hasn't always been successful."

CAO Gary Dyke said upper management would work to advance change.

Perry said it is, "a bit like herding cats, and people will go off and do their own things, and one of the things we're looking for from council is an endorsement of this strategy." He said that would empower senior management to lead the charge. He added there would be regular check-ins for accountability. Dyke suggested quarterly reporting, including variance.

Council adopted the strategy in principle, and Perry will be presenting to the four lower-tier townships.

A MESSAGE FROM





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Whether you are looking for a service, experience, shop, or restaurant - our online business directory will help you find what you are looking for.

To find a local business or learn more about becoming a member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, visit us at:

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A Service of Thanksgiving & Deconsecration

St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Wilberforce

Tuesday, July 9 • 4pm
Bishop of Toronto Andrew Asbil
RSVP to office@haliburtonanglican.ca
Cake and beverages at 3pm

The **Highlander**

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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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We acknowledge and appreciate financial assistance from the Government of Canada



Credit where it's due

There was an awful lot to unpack last week after Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) held its annual general meeting in Minden.

The auditorium at the former hospital site was packed as community residents came out to hear HHHS president and CEO Veronica Nelson and new board chair, Irene Odell, discuss highlights from the previous fiscal year – the first since the Minden ER was shuttered on June 1, 2023.

There was reasonably good news to start out – Nelson confirmed HHHS has made significant strides reducing its deficit, reported as \$2.3 million as of year-end March 31. This was a considerable drop from the \$4.2 million deficit the organization reported at the end of the 2022/23 fiscal year.

That Nelson and her team has been able to bring that number down despite unprecedented wage increases brought on by the Ontario government repealing Bill 124, which cost the organization approximately \$3.5 million – and deal with record inflation that saw operating costs rise \$1.9 million is impressive.

When *The Highlander* asked what plans HHHS had to balance the books, and when the public can expect to see the service back in the black, I expected a vague response with no real answer. So, when Nelson retorted that she hopes to eliminate the debt completely by the end of the next fiscal year, I was a little caught off guard.

In a world where hospitals provincewide are reporting massive increases to debt loads, with seemingly no path back to a balanced budget, it's curious HHHS has been able to steady the ship. Or at least stop taking on water.

A big reason for the improvement is the near elimination of spending on agency nurses. At its peak in May 2023, HHHS used agency staff to cover 160 RN and RPN shifts that month. Most of those temporary workers were paid more than twice what full-time and part-time staff earned.

Nelson has overseen a remarkable turnaround on the staffing front since joining HHHS last summer. More than 80 new workers have been brought on board over the past year, while changes to the organization's hiring practices has meant new hires are starting, on average, within 35 days of being offered a job, rather than the 84 days it was taking last year.

As someone who could never understand why or how the Ontario government could allow private entities to spring up demanding grossly overvalued terms for employees carrying out a much-needed service, I'm glad to see HHHS freeing itself from agency-related shackles. Here's hoping it

The most shocking tidbit of information for me was right near the end, when Nelson revealed HHHS has been engaged in strategic and master plan discussions for much of the past year. In its pre-capital

submission on the master plan to the Ministry of Health, HHHS is projecting to more than double its capacity for inpatient admissions over the next 25 years.



By Mike Baker

It also wants to significantly expand the number of long-term beds it has.

We asked if that level of growth can be sustained at the Haliburton hospital, or if an expansion, or even construction of a new facility, would be required.

Nelson didn't give much away there – in truth, there wasn't a whole lot she could say. But the fact HHHS is projecting numbers that will almost definitely mean it needs to invest in growing its Haliburton location, or building another, so soon after pulling services from Minden isn't a great look.

Credit where it's due, though. Since Nelson arrived at HHHS last summer, shortly after the decision was made to close Minden, she hasn't shied away from the public eye. She hasn't been afraid to answer tough questions. She's provided the kind of stability HHHS needed after years of perceived mismanagement.

A fitting analogy given it's graduation season, but Nelson gets a passing grade for her first year on the job.

HUMANS OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Finding 'her people' in Minden

By Susan Tromanhauser

Julie Hotte first arrived in Minden in her twenties with friends renting a cottage each summer. Part of their Minden experience was "causing trouble at the Rockcliffe."

One evening, Hotte and her friend closed the bar down expecting to hail a taxi to return to their rental. Instead, they found empty streets. Luckily, a gentleman pulled up beside them and inquired if they needed help. He explained a taxi would not be coming and offered them a ride home.

After showing identification as an off-shift OPP officer, Hotte and her companion were safely delivered home.

Buoyed by the fun and the kindness of a stranger. Hotte announced one day she would move to Minden. It took a global pandemic to finally make the move but in 2020 Hotte officially became a Minden citizen.

After 40 years living in Scarborough, Hotte finally had enough of the "hustle and bustle." Lining up to get into supermarkets during COVID, incessant traffic and constant blare of police and ambulance sirens, caused Hotte to realize there were other quieter areas to

Hotte's twin sister had recently re-located to Minden and Hotte remembered the quaintness of the area. She soon found a beautiful home that was perfect for Hotte's partner and her elderly mother.

What she came to love about Minden was the peacefulness as well as the nature. As

she describes the frequent deer visitors and a surprise moose visit, birds can be heard chirping in the background. Now, when Hotte occasionally hears a siren, she is not annoyed, she is concerned, hoping all is well.

Through various interests Hotte has become an active part of the Minden community. While she misses "her people" in Scarborough, she has created a new community through bowling, pickleball, and St. Peter's Anglican Church.

She became involved with the church when she discovered they were praying for her while she was getting treatment for cancer. Hotte thanks an aware doctor in Minden hospital for recognizing a small fingernail growth as a cancerous tumour. Quick intervention and radiation at the Peterborough hospital has the cancer in remission.

While Hotte is very appreciative of the health care she received, she is concerned amenities for her 93-year-old mother are not as available. Hotte is the caretaker for her mother suffering with dementia and worries there are few services to offer Hotte respite

Life does come full circle. Forty years ago, stranded outside the Rockcliffe, a helpful OPP officer came to Hotte's aid. Last winter, Hotte was driving by almost the same location and spotted an elderly man motionless on the side of the road. She stopped to inquire if he needed help. He said he suffered from Parkinson's and could



Julie Hotte. Submitted.

indeed use assistance. She gave him a ride home and they "have become good pals." Hotte now takes him grocery shopping once a week.

Hotte is very grateful for the beauty, peace and quiet of the area, but she is most grateful she is beginning to find "her people" in Minden.

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK





Harald Kaltz took these photos at the fireworks in Minden. Kaltz is from Montreal and was staying at a cottage on Mountain Lake. He told us, "I enjoyed my annual vacation in Minden very much. And the fireworks are always a highlight for me.'

LETTERS

Settle labour dispute

Dear editor,

Re: strike mandate at Municipality of Highlands East. I understand we are close to a strike situation, how very sad, because in a strike situation, who will win?

The answer is no one wins, certainly not management who are in a position where they are using our tax dollars to settle the dispute, and not the employees who wish to be heard on whatever issues are important to them. And certainly not the ratepayers, because they will have to pick up the tab for whatever the settlement calls for.

Consider that in Haliburton County, we have one of the lowest per capita incomes in the province. Many families and seniors live well below the poverty level, and yet these are the people who will pay, when taxes have to be increased to cover a new contract.

If a strike happens, let us hope it is not a long one, no pay cheques from the municipality, no benefits until the strike is settled, and last but not least, the bad feelings that will exist long after the strike is settled.

Mayor Burton and I have had our disagreements over the years, however I have found him to be a willing negotiator, I also have known some of the union members for many years, good people one and all.

So good people let's get back to the table and settle this once and for all.

Chuck Viner Gooderham

A teachable example

Dear editor,

Re: Residents rock the boat over Kash wakes Thank you for the report regarding residents' concerns regarding damage resulting from heavy wake boats on Lake Kashagawigamog.

This is a teachable example of the 'tragedy of the commons.'

Shared space (even water) means shared responsibility. We can all enjoy our lakes responsibly, but when someone chooses to abuse the 'commons' both the environment and other people are hurt. In this case commercial use of the 'shared space' leads to destruction on the shoreline and expensive damage to docks.

All good tragedies have more than one plot. Here, the subplot seems to be the inability of Dysart council to act in concert with the province for specific 'vessel operation restriction regulations' which could protect the aquatic 'commons.'

Clifford Ottaway Haliburton

Canada can show by example

Dear editor,

Last week's U.S. presidential debate exposed two different people. One whose age is showing, but so was his genuine caring for

all, the world's environment, and the truth; and one who only cares about himself and thirsts for personal power.

What world leader will voters trust? It is a terrifying time. Will those considering the latter believing that 'revenge may sweeten', consider that it does not cure or prolong life on Earth?

Albert Schweitzer, a man who practiced what he preached, said "the awareness that we are all human beings together has become lost in war and through politics."

Canada can show by example. Let's think of our kids' future in the choices we make.

Fred Phipps Haliburton

The village is a hum

Dear editor,

What is that humming noise in the village at night?

I first started hearing this noise a few months ago. I put it down to perhaps machinery at a construction site or some kind of County work being done.

I checked through my house to see if it was a freezer or a fridge. But then it continued day after day, night after night. The sound is similar to a truck idling nearby or electronics pulsing. It's more prominent at night when it's quieter as during the day there is already much noise with traffic and loud trucks and planes etc.

I decided to do a scan of the area, so I

drove around trying to pinpoint the source, but no luck. I thought it might be coming from exhaust fans from grocery stores and restaurants and even the fans at the laundromat or cell towers.

Then I googled, "what is causing the mysterious worldwide hum?" And what I found was mind-boggling. Scientists say it shouldn't exist and yet thousands of people on the continent are hearing this. Researchers are working on reasons why, but in the meantime, I have to leave my radio on even when I would rather not, just to have peace and quiet, to get a break from the droning,

The reason I moved here a few years back from the noisy cities was for quiet. Our world is so noisy and this has just added even more. It's intolerable trying to get to sleep with this droning humming noise in your ears. And its not just me who has heard this in the village, and even Minden. Others responded to a post I had on a media group that they also heard it. I am really at my wits end trying to deal with this. And I am wondering how this is affecting the wildlife. Deer in particular have a broader range of frequencies than we do.

Anita Louise Haliburton

ASES Wildcats roar for one last time

Bv Lisa Gervais

Sixty-two Archie Stouffer Elementary School students crossed the stage June 24 to receive their school diplomas from their Grade 8 teachers

Principal Mike Gervais said, "it was an amazing year to watch our Grade 8's grow and thrive. It is with great joy we celebrate their accomplishments this evening."

Trustee Gary Brohman was unable to attend, so Gervais read his remarks to grads. Brohman honoured them for their hard work and reaching the milestone. "It wasn't always easy, but here you are. And high school lays ahead, with many new adventures and many new friends."

His nuggets of wisdom included, "always do your best. Be kind, be humble, and grateful for what you have. Be honest with yourself and others and just do what's right."

Vice principal Michelle Kernohan told grads, "life isn't only about a job or a specific career path. It's less about what you want to be, and more about who you want to be. The values you want to uphold, the impact you want to make, and the relationships you want to build."

She added, "your personal values are your compass, guiding you through life, empowering you to make the right decisions and shaping the person you become. Will you be someone who stands up for justice and equality? Will you be known for your kindness and compassion towards others? Will you approach challenges with resilience and determination? The world needs people like you, and I believe that wholeheartedly. Your actions, no matter how small, have the potential to make a significant impact. Please continue to just be good humans. Ultimately, you guys have the power to change the world."

Grade 8 teachers Joel Vaughan, Angela Pilgrim and Cheryl Patterson did the traditional address of a poem, concluding with, "we sure grow them good in Minden."

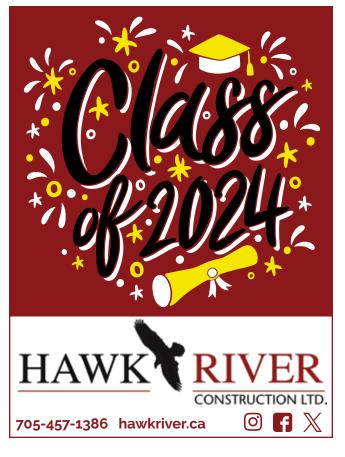


Valedictorian Jadyn Hamilton said he'd had an "amazing" 10 years at ASES. "It has been a phenomenal part of our lives." He said the only bad time was online learning during the COVID years but, "these last two years have been such a blast."

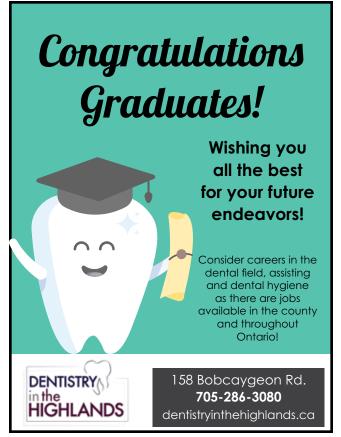
He concluded, "I'm so sad I am leaving and am going to miss this place. I will always remember where I started my journey. I will always be a wildcat."

Above: Jadyn Hamilton with the principal all-round student award. He is pictured with principal Mike Gervais and vice principal, Michelle Kernohan. Right: Mya Casey receives the Sarah Bloomfield Award, presented to a student who is fun-loving, has a zest for life and is a spark in the room. *Photos by Lisa Gervais*.















Will never forget memorable moments

By Lillie Qiu

Students at Wilberforce Elementary School have said goodbye to another school year - and are celebrating the arrival of summer vacation following their graduation ceremony

The parents of the graduating class of 2024 cheered for their kids while seated in the Lloyd Watson Memorial Community Centre.

The 13, Grade 8 grads were decked out in green graduation gowns and caps, and sat at the front of the room along with the grads from Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7, who were also honoured.

The soon-to-be high school students collected their diplomas, and awards were given out, including for citizenship, academic achievement, and leadership.

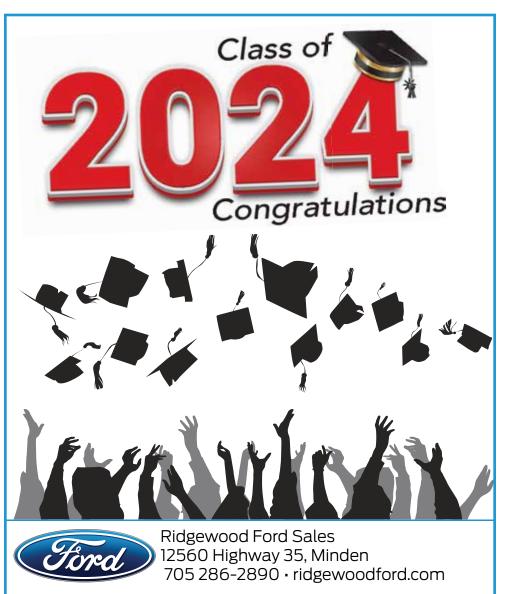
Dave Burton, mayor of Highlands East, said, "we look forward to seeing you off to bigger and better things next September".

Valedictorians Andra Brad and Mia Alden reminisced and talked about looking forward to high school. "We will never forget all the memorable moments. I can't wait to see all the things we will accomplish in the years to come," Alden said.

The ceremony ended with a video tribute to the graduating Grade 8 class.

Director of education for Trillium Lakelands District School Board, Wes Hahn, highlighted some "great" events in the 2023-24 school year in his end-of-year video. They included Day of Paint, Pride month, the second annual Pow Wow and drum social, and the Better Together Arts Showcase.

Top: Emersyn MacDonald walks off the stage at the graduation ceremony for Wilberforce Elementary School. Bottom: Student Wila Brown, in Grade 8, receives a certificate of achievement. Photos by Lillie Qiu.



GOING AWAY?

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From the jaguar jungle to red hawks' nest

By Lisa Gervais

J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School principal David Waito identified two challenges facing teenagers in society right now.

During his graduation greetings June 25, he said there'd been an increase in teenage loneliness. During adolescence, he said brains rewire for social connection. He said ties to friends should be increasing in importance and depth.

"Yet, so many teenagers these days are reporting feeling more and more lonely. And I think this is worrisome."

He said technology has created the ability to connect more than ever before, sitting on our couches using social media to interact with people in Australia, Calgary and Ottawa.

"But I think the problem here is I'm sitting on my couch. I'm not with my friends."



He urged them to make their next four years at Hal High about seeing each other in real life... "making real connections with each other..."
He said that should help with the second challenge facing teens – school attendance.
"High school does have so much to offer.
You've got to be there, and you have to be involved to make it happen."

Waito congratulated the class of 2024 saying, "we are all so proud of you." He lauded their efforts, perseverance, and achievements, and advised them to not just let life happen to them, but work hard to earn their futures.

Valedictorian Luke Gruppe said it had been a fun time but that it had gone by fast. He quoted a famous line from the movie *Ferris Bueller's Day Off,* "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

He said some of the highlights were a three-day trip to Montreal, a ski trip to Sir Sam's, and treetop trekking.

He lauded teachers, and went on to say why he thinks JDH is such an "exceptional school" He noted the

school." He noted the closeness to Haliburton village, a nearby high school track, running trails behind the school, and a well-used gym.

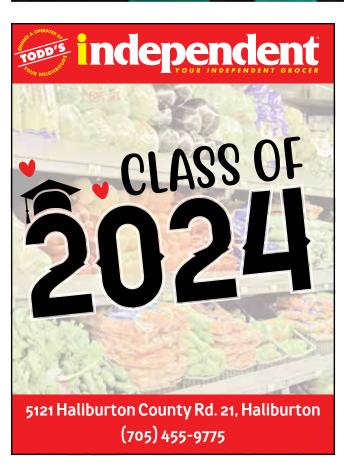
However, "what truly defines JDH over these past five years is its people. The students and faculty here have demonstrated kindness, care, and support for one another."

Top: French award winners Autumn
Robins-Micall and Calla Jones. Right:
Principal David Waito. Left: Luke
Gruppe.

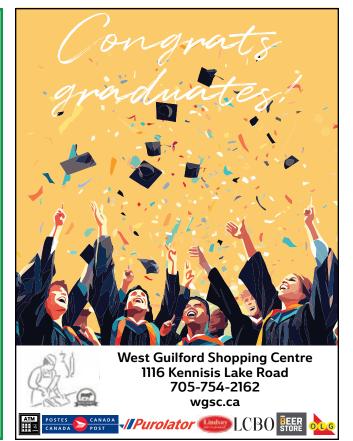
Photos by Lisa Gervais.











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Jazzalynne West, smiling, received the Joshua Rewa memorial award. Photos by Mike Baker.

Adult ed grads noted for grit and perseverance

By Mike Baker

Kim Williams, superintendent of learning at Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB), said she always looks forward to adult education graduations.

She attended McKeck's Tap & Grill June 26 as the Haliburton Adult and Alternative Education Centre said goodbye to 21 graduates last week.

"Today is your day, as Dr. Seuss said. You have great places you're all heading off to," Williams said. "The one thing I love about coming to these graduations is hearing all the personal stories about the journeys you have been on, the challenges you've overcome. The skills you have to navigate through life – it's taken perseverance, you've had to stay focused on a goal despite all the other things happening around you... so let me be the first to say, congratulations."

Lori Sargent, teacher and head admin at the Haliburton site, said she and fellow teacher, Greg Shantz, have gotten to know this year's graduates well as they worked towards their high school diploma.

While circumstances, often beyond the students' control, led them to the AAEC program, she credited the graduates for putting in the required work and helping to create a positive atmosphere at the Haliburton campus.

"Acceptance is a big word at our school. Everyone has their own journey, you've all had to learn to paddle your own canoe to get here. We accepted one another and celebrated what we're going to do next," Sargent said.

Lisa Uuldriks, principal of all TLDSB adult education programming, was also in attendance. She likened the graduates to butterflies – saying they're now the best versions of themselves, ready to go out into the world.

Several awards were presented – Jazzalynne West received the Joshua Rewa award of distinction, Kayden Colligan the Joshua Rewa memorial post-secondary bursary, Curtis Hoare the math and science award, Tyler Ewing the effort in the workplace award for his placement at Medeba, Elizabeth Lemieux for academic commitment and dedication, and Jason Thomas the work placement award.

Other graduates include Dana Black, Evan Carpenter, Aiden Conlin, Marcus Edwards, Liam Finnie, Hannah Huffman, Tess Husbands, Logan Kennedy, Christian



Kayden Colligan and Aiden Conlin were two of 21 graduates from this year's program.

Lemieux, Pharen Richardson, Amelia Somerville, Carter Stamp, Ryan Tanaka, Seth Winstanley, and Jocelyn Winter. Husbands, reading the graduate address written by Black, who didn't attend, said her fellow graduates should be proud of their achievements.

"It takes bravery to go against the trend, to seek out what you need to be successful. It's a gamble — you don't really know what will work for you, but we all took the leap. My advice is to remember this lesson as you move forward in life," Husbands said. "You've already shown you can go against the tide and do what is best for you.

"We may have faced setbacks or doubts along the way, but those things have gotten us here today... on this journey to success," she added.



A group of graduates pose with their high school diplomas and awards. Photos by Mike Baker.

HHSS grads challenged to move mountains

By Mike Baker

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) principal Jenn Mills borrowed from Dr. Seuss when congratulating the Red Hawks' 2024 graduating class last week, saying, "you will succeed, yes you will indeed, you will move mountains."

It was a packed house inside the HHSS athletic complex June 27 as the community came together to celebrate 86 graduating students

Armed with the classic *Oh*, *the Places You'll Go*, Mills reeled off some advice for her now former students – telling them to trust the years of lessons received at HHSS and elsewhere.

"My hope is the lessons you've learned in and out of the classroom throughout your elementary and secondary careers will stay with you and help set you on your way... you have brains in your head and feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself any direction you choose," Mills said.

She said one of the most important things to achieving success is setting goals – even little ones.

"Some days it might just be getting out of bed, others it'll be figuring out what to do with your life and how to get there," Mills said. "Don't wait for life to happen to you. You need to put the work in and set yourself on a direction to achieve everything you want for yourself."

Vice principal Martin Gage said it's OK for graduates to fail, as long as they pick themselves back up and keep trying.

"You've reached the top of one mountain. Now it's time to find another one to climb. Most of you already have some pretty solid plans – entering the workforce, going to college or university, working towards an apprenticeship, or exploring the world. These plans will lead you down different pathways... there's many ways to make meaningful contributions to the world," Gage said.

Valedictorian Abi Lewis encouraged her classmates to chase their dreams and stay true to who they are, no matter how tough the path gets. She was one of five students to receive school letters for academic excellence, along with Brody Bolger, Olivia Humphries, Lily Manning and Marley Mariani.

Bolger received the principal's award for student leadership, with Humphries earning the lieutenant governor's award for community service. Cameron Level received the governor general's academic medal. Eight students graduated with specialist high skills majors in hospitality and tourism, with nine earning environment credits, and nine others receiving the extended French certificate. Thirty-four students made the honour roll, for students who graduate with an average mark of 80 per cent or higher.

Top right: Taylor Consack and Jamie Crowe share a smile during last Thursday's graduation ceremony. Right: Marley Mariani, Ceinwyn Mathura, Sam McMahon and Sarah Mee were excited to graduate.





16 Highlander clap outs 75757575







Moving on from Stuart Baker

The Grade 3 graduating class of Stuart W. Baker Elementary School walked out of their school building amid the clapping hands of parents, guardians, teachers and educational assistants on June 27. The class of 2024 will be moving on next school year to J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School, next door. The event saw music blaring out of the speakers attached to the school and kids eagerly wanting to finish the school year, filing out of the building with their parents. The clap-out gave students a sense of excitement for graduating on to another school while finishing out another year in the school system. Some parents brought bouquets of flowers to celebrate their kids' graduation and "moving on."

Top: Gracie Pockett, Olivia Irvine and Alexa Chessman stand outside of Stuart W. Baker Elementary School at the end of the clap-out. Above: A graduating Grade 3 class stands outside with teacher, Andrew Hewitt, after the clap-out. Photos by Lillie Qiu.



Saying goodbye to Cardiff Elementary

The clap-out at Cardiff Elementary School saw awards, in addition to kids filing out of the school for a clap-out. The Grade 3 graduating class of 2024 will be moving on to Wilberforce Elementary School in September. Awards such as the 'challenge champ' and 'visionary' were given out to the graduating class. The 'visionary' award goes to someone who puts a lot of thought into her actions. Other awards included the 'inventive and imaginative' prizes, given to someone who brings ideas to life, and the Einstein award, for someone with a great interest in science, and love for animals. Parents and siblings showed up with bouquets in hand and gifts for the graduates. The kids were sat down at the entrance to the school and listened to some parting words from their teachers to begin the clap-out.

Above: Rowan Pritchard, with her mom Amanda, poses with her Einstein award, given to someone for their great interest in science and love for animals. Photo by Lillie Qiu.







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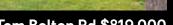
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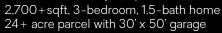
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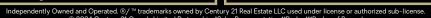
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18 Canada Day 🐃



Minden Hills shows its red and white

Minden Hills celebrated Canada Day in downtown Minden and at the cultural centre. There was a kids' fishing derby that saw children drop a line in the Gull River for three hours. They brought their catch for weigh-ins. First, second and third place winners were announced at the end of the derby. Free cupcakes were provided on behalf of the township, and free ice cream by Kawartha Dairy. Rob Power, a master magician, did a strolling performance in both locations. There was a fireworks' display at the Minden Fairgrounds at dusk, put on by Supernova.

Above: A girl dressed in a bridal dress poses on the runway at the fashion show at the Minden Hills Canada Day celebration. Right: Leo and Luca Burtnick stand along the Gull River with their catch from the fishing derby. *Photos by Lillie Qui*.



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Website: Gardensof Haliburton.ca







The West Guilford Canada Day celebration continued after a hiatus with the tradition of a Pine Lake swim. The winner, Joel Cooper, was announced at the opening ceremony at 1 p.m. There was a flag-raising, along with O Canada. Awards were given to best 'red & white' and best 'decorated bike'. Field races, a tug-of-war, water races and a nail drive happened in the afternoon. There was also a crosscut competition and a roast beef dinner at the West Guilford Community Centre. There was a fireworks display at dusk over the lake.

Above: Quinn Hamilton and Jessalynn Thompson at the 2024 West Guilford duck hunt stand, where, if you found more than 75 ducks, you would get a free lollipop, at the West Guilford Canada Day celebrations. Top right: Tanya Sisson, with Joel Cooper, the winner of the Pine Lake swim. Right: Raelynn and Wendy Sisson wore their red and white. Photos by Lillie Qiu.





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GARDENS



20 Canada Day 🔏





Gooderham caps off HE celebrations

Gooderham hosted its 151st Canada Day celebrations at the Robert McCausland Memorial Community Centre. The event started at 3 p.m. with activities for children, including facepainting, and bingo with a witch. The Irondale Historical Society was on-site to present their 2024 exhibit, sponsor the poppy waterfall, which creates a waterfall from the steeple of the church. There was free cake and BBQ food for purchase. There was also a vendor on site, selling handmade lotions, face products, and other specialty items. The Recycled Teenagers played a show at 7 p.m. and there were fireworks to end the night. Highlands East featured a full day of activities in its villages.

Above: Trevor Smith and Maci Smith, after Maci got her face painted, at the community centre for Gooderham's Canada Day celebrations. Top right: Ethan Cheong plays bingo with a lady dressed in a green witch costume. Right: Carol Simmons shows the poppy exhibit. Photos by Lillie Qiu.



NEW TO YOU COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Shop 35 yard sales all in one spot!

Saturday, July 6, 2024 8 AM to 1 PM Parking lot of A.J. LaRue Arena 728 Mountain Street, Haliburton

Shoppers: park on Highland Street, Maple Avenue, or a free municipal parking lot on Highland Street, York Street, Park Street

Visit our satellite locations on Saturday, July 6, 2024: In-store sales at:

- 10 AM 2 PM: Haliburton 4Cs Lily Ann Thrift Store, 33 York St, Haliburton
- 10 AM 5 PM: Thrift Warehouse, 128 Mallard Road, Haliburton

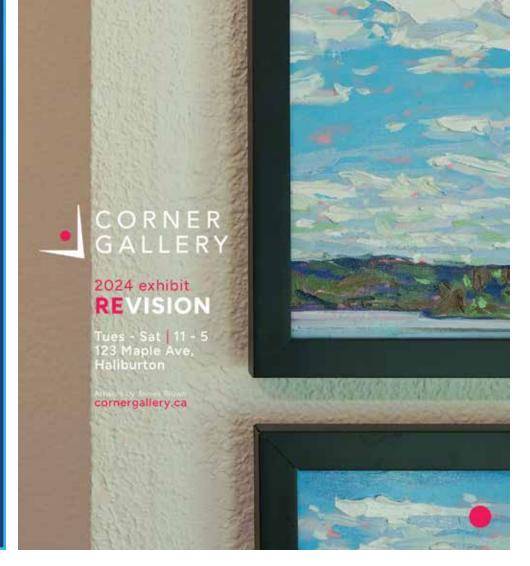
- 10 AM 2 PM: Dysart Branch Haliburton County Public Library, 78 Maple Avenue, Haliburton (hosted by Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library
- 10 AM 5 PM: Haliburton Highlands Museum, 66 Museum Rd, Haliburton



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22 Highlander events





An ode to the past

The Dorset Heritage Museum put on an ode to the past for their annual Dorset Heritage Day. The 35th Simcoe Foresters Battalion, which had its heyday from 1866-1900, was present to showcase a part of the region's history. Seniors, dressed in battalion soldier gear, did firings at half past the hour throughout the event. The Heritage Day saw steam-powered machinery, and antique automobiles and tractors as outdoor exhibits. A marketplace sold woodworking pieces, vinyl records, maple syrup and art and jewelry. There were children's activities and crafts, face-painting, a photo booth, as well as a quilt and Afghan raffle. Kerry Lock, one of the organizers of the event, said, "we try to have most of our outdoor exhibits relate to history or culture in some way. It's just really more of an awareness thing, to bring people here to the museum." The Dorset Lions Club were on site to offer a barbecue lunch. Donations to the museum were accepted.

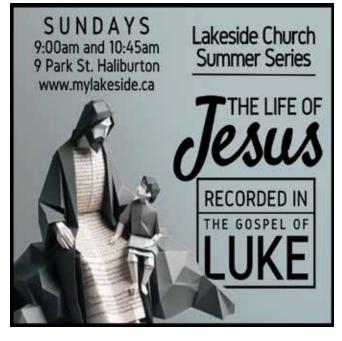
Far left: Steve Bourne dressed as a soldier from the 35th Simcoe Foresters Battalion at the Dorset Heritage Day. Left: Maureen Adlard in traditional wear. *Photos by Lillie Qiu.*

Spellers charming audiences

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is a Tony Award-winning musical comedy that kicked off the Highlands Summer Festival July 2. It is based off of the book by Rachel Sheinkin and has a vibrant score composed by William Finn. It's been shown across the country and has "charmed audiences," according to the festival website. It's about six awkward spelling champions vying for the title to be Putnam County's number one speller. The musical features touching scenes and stories from the spellers' home lives as they come up for their words. Individual adult tickets are \$40 and youth tickets for those up to 18 years old are \$20, with a season's pass being \$175. The show will be running until July 11 and is directed by Douglas Walker. (Lillie Qiu).

The cast of the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and their ensemble group pose for a photo after their dress rehearsal on June 30 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. Submitted.







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or call our office at 705-448-2981

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Notice of Procedural By-Law Amendments

As per Policy No. 24 – Public Notice Policy, notice is hereby being provided that Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on July 23, 2024, will be amending the Procedural By-Law to incorporate a change to the start time of the Glebe Park and Museum Committee and to make administrative updates that reflect the current agenda order for Council meetings.

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk

Duchene re-signs for one year in Dallas

By Mike Baker

Haliburton's Matt Duchene is sticking with the NHL's Dallas Stars for another season after penning a one-year, \$3 million, contract extension with the team July 1.

News broke mid-afternoon on Canada Day that the 33-year-old Duchene will return to the Stars, who took losing Stanley Cup finalist Edmonton Oilers to seven games in the Western Conference final last month.

It's an identical contract to the one Duchene signed last summer, shortly after being bought out of the remaining three years of his \$8 million per year deal with the Nashville Predators.

The speedy playmaker enjoyed a good season in Dallas, contributing 25 goals and 40 assists in 80 games while skating, primarily, on the team's second line. It's the fourth time Duchene has eclipsed the 60-point threshold in 15 pro-league seasons. He was a factor on the man advantage for the Stars, which boasted the league's ninth-best powerplay. Duchene finished the year with 16 powerplay points.

He figures to be a middle-six option for the Stars next season, where he'll likely be back alongside fellow veterans Mason Marchment and Tyler Seguin.

Duchene became the 387th player to join the NHL's millennium club last year, making his 1,000th pro appearance Dec. 7 against the Washington Capitals.

Speaking to *The Highlander* then, Duchene said it was always his goal to stay in Dallas.

"My family and I really like it here... the idea around a one-year deal [was] to try something out and see if it fit. So far, it's been great," Duchene said.

With the Stars having limited cap space and seemingly focusing on defence during free agency – signing former Toronto Maple Leaf Ilya Lyubushkin to a three-year deal with a \$3.25 million average annual value (AAV) and Matt Dumba to a two-year



Matt Duchene is staying in Dallas for the 2024/25 season. *Photo by Dallas Stars*.

contract carrying a \$3.75 million AAV – they only committed to one more season with

So, it'll be a return to familiarity for number 95 who will hope to compete, again, for the Stanley Cup next spring and add to his 809 NHL points.



Take me out to the ball game

Two Mosquito Boys' teams - consisting of all players from Haliburton and Minden – are this summer playing in the Fenelon Falls Minor Baseball League (playing in the Victoria-Brock Baseball Association). Their final tournament will be July 20 in Bobcaygeon. They are pictured here from a June 26 game in Coboconk. *Submitted*.



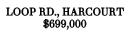


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Get the lead out and the rock bass in

Fishing derbies for rock bass fish will be taking place this summer across six local lake associations. Rock bass are considered to be invasive to County lakes. The derbies are for participants aged two to 18, who can enjoy fishing while contributing to important environmental initiatives. The derbies are being sponsored by U-Links, and the Woodlands and Waterways Ecowatch. The rock bass are easy for children to catch, and according to a press release from U-Links and Woodlands and Waterways Ecowatch, are a fun way to learn about invasive species and how to prevent their spread. The derbies will also be highlighting the importance of lead-free fishing. Traditional lead fishing tackle can have devastating effects on wildlife, particularly waterfowl and fish. An initiative called 'Let's Get the Lead Out' was started by Margie Manthey and Donna Garland of the Wolfe Lake Association three years ago. Registration for the derbies opened June 11 and there will be prizes given out to the top anglers in various categories. Entry to the event is free. The derbies will be hosted by lake associations, including Kennisis, Paudash, Haliburton, Halls and Hawk, Gull and Kushog lakes. Participants can sign up online at each respective lake association website or register on-site on the day of the event. Sara Gregorini, an environmental research associate with U-Links, said, "this event is really great because we're bringing awareness to both invasive species and 'Let's Get the Lead Out', which really affects our area and the wildlife." (Lillie Qiu).

Charlotte Gilbert and Nathan Hill took part in a past Minden Hills kids fishing derby on Canada Day. *File*.

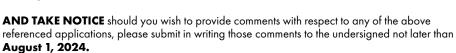


PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received applications to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

- 1. **File No. PLSRA2023044:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Bob Lake, lying in front 1051 Loggers Crossing Lane located within Lot 12, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Anson
- 2. File No. PLSRA2024014: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Canning Lake, lying in front of 1237 Ingoldsby Road located within Lot 16, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.



AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requiste commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons) Manager of Planning, Township of Minden Hills 705-286-1260 Ext. 506 adougherty@mindenhills.ca



Form 2 Expropriations Act

Notice of Application for Approval to Expropriate Land

IN THE MATTER OF an application by the Ministry of Transportation for approval to expropriate land, pursuant to s.11(2) and subsection 11.1(3) of the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act*, being in the Township of Minden Hills, and in the Geographic Township of Stanhope, now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton, Province of Ontario.

FOR THE PURPOSE(S) OF: Facilitating the replacement of centreline culverts, installation of erosion protection and future maintenance of centreline culverts along King's Highways 35 and 118 and all works related thereto.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application has been made for approval to expropriate the land described in the schedule attached hereto.

The approving authority is the Minister of Transportation with an address of:

Minister of Transportation 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor Toronto ON M7A 1Z8 416-327-9200

Any owner of lands in respect of which notice is given, who desires to comment on the proposed expropriation of the land for the described purpose(s) may do so by submitting the comment within the time stated herein to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Transportation Infrastructure Management Division, Ministry of Transportation, in writing.

The Ministry will review the comments for their technical/engineering information, having regard to the need for the land for the purposes of the project.

The Assistant Deputy Minister must receive the comments within thirty days after the owner is served with this notice, or within thirty days after the first publication of the notice.

The comments must be sent:

By e-mail to: $\underline{Property.Process@ontario.ca}$

Or by mail to: Assistant Deputy Minister

Transportation and Infrastructure Management

Ministry of Transportation 4th Floor, Garden City Tower 301 St. Paul Street

St. Catharines ON L2R 7R4

Please include the municipal address of the land in the comment.

The expropriating authority is the Minister of Transportation with an address of: 777 Bay Street, 5th Floor Toronto ON M7A 1Z8 416-327-9200

Minister of Transportation

Per: "original signed by Cristina Makitalo" c/o Cristina Makitalo Conveyancing Supervisor 447 McKeown Avenue, Suite 301 North Bay ON P1B 9S9

SCHEDULE

All right, title and interest in the lands described as follows:

 Part of PIN 39187-0516 (LT); Part of Lot 15, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden, now in the Township of Minden Hills, County of Haliburton; Designated as Part 4 on 19R-10574 (Ministry Plan P-2904-203)

All right, title and interest for a limited period of time up to and including December 27, 2027 in the lands described as follows:

- Part of PIN 39187-0516 (LT); Part of Lot 15, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden, now in the Township of Minden Hills, County of Haliburton; Designated as Part 5 on 19R-10574 (Ministry Plan P-2904-203)
- 2. Part of PIN 39187-0234 (LT); Part of Lots 14 and 15, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden, now in the Township of Minden Hills, County of Haliburton; Designated as Part 6 on 19R-10574 (Ministry Plan P-2904-203)
- 3. Part of PIN 39127-0227 (LT); Part of Lot 15, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Stanhope, now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton; Designated as Parts 1, 2 and 3 on 19R-10571 (Ministry Plan P-2651-102)

THIS NOTICE WAS FIRST PUBLISHED ON JULY 4, 2024





WHAT'S HAPPENING This week











DominionHotelPub.ca

Head Lake Park, Haliburton For more information:

👍 rcofhaliburton 🔰 rcofhaliburton

Thursday July 4

Rockcliffe - trivia night, 7 p.m. Boshkung Social - live music, 6 - 9 p.m.

Friday July 5

Dominion Hotel - Open Mic Night with Dave and Joe, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday July 6

Dominion Hotel - Concert Gathering Sparks: Eve Goldburg and Jane Lewis, 7 p.m.

Rockcliffe - live music - Doug Horner Mulligans - Trina West & Albert Saxby, 6 - 9 p.m.

Sunday July 7

Dominion Hotel - live music -Trina West, 5 p.m.

Boshkung Social - live music, 12 - 3 p.m.

Tuesday July 9

Haliburton Rotary - Music in the Park Ragged Company, 6:30 p.m.

Dominion Hotel - Tiki Tuesday -Van Hillert, 7 p.m.

Boshkung Social - CanoeFM Bingo, 6 p.m.

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NOTICES

Offer at Shell Jug City Minden Station CAA offer 3 cents off on the gas and 10% on the items inside the store except lotto and cigarettes

Highlander classifieds 29

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Hilda Teusink

(Resident of Wilberforce, Ontario)

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our dear strong loving mother who died peacefully

at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday evening, January 4, 2024 in her 95th year. Beloved wife of the late Fred Teusink (2007). Loving mother of Fred, John (Lucy), Arnold (Sandra), Alix (Jim) and Betty-Ann. Fondly remembered by her many grandchildren Chris (Delaney), Matthew, Lindsey, Tyler (Jessica), Jamie, Jordanna and by her great grandchildren Brittney (Landon), Makenzie, Jadyn, Lucas, Hailee, Sabrina and by her great grandaughter Sophie. Survived by her two sisters in Holland. Predeceased by her brother Henk and sister Lise, by her daughter-in-laws Brenda (2006) and Dixie (2016) and by her great granddaughter Nora (2014). Hilda loved the Haliburton Highlands. She lived in Elliot Lake before coming to the Wilberforce. She will be remembered for her infectious smile and laugh. She also enjoyed spending time with her family.

Graveside Service

A Graveside Service will be held at SOUTH WILBERFORCE CEMETERY 1468 South Wilberforce Road, Wilberforce, Ontario on Saturday, July 13, 2024, at 12 o'clock. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Harcourt Bible Chapel or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY

FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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FOR SALE - 8 HP NISSAN MOTOR \$750. Starts first pull, hardly used. Call 905-868-6154

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SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent -Industrial Park Road, various sizes. Call (705) 457-1224

YARD SALE

GARAGE / YARD SALE – 1 Birchleaf Drive, Norland. Saturday, July 6th & Sunday, July 7th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. NO TOYS, NO TOOLS. Collectable Estate items, household items, cottage items, PLUS, PLUS, PLUS!!! Just unexpected treasures. Prices negotiable within reason.

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In Loving Memory of

FUNERAL HOME

Robert John Slavish

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

With his family by his side, Bob passed peacefully at his Haliburton home, to continue his journey to his Heavenly

home on Monday, June 17, 2024, at the age of 90. Beloved husband of Laurie and the late Joyce (May 30, 1999). Loving father of Gerald (Sandra), Joanne (Luke), Simon, and Lesley. Bob is lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Kendra, Kelsey, Heather, and Graeme, his nephews Kevin (Ann) and Johnathan (Kelly), and his great-grandchild Jamie. Predeceased by his parents Samuel (Semion) and Emily, and siblings Samuel (Marion) and Pauline. The family is very grateful and would like to give a special thank you for the outstanding assistance that Bob received from Haliburton Highland Health Services, Paramed, Community Service, and EMS.

Celebration Of Life

A Celebration of Bob's Life will be held at THE COMMUNITY ROOM 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Saturday afternoon, August 10th, 2024, from 1-3 p.m. Please bring your memories and stories to share. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted

to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



SERVICES

SKILLED HANDYMAN - Available for renovations, trim, tile, bathroom, deck, basement, flooring and paint. Please call or text Bob at 705-457-6190

30 Highlander classifieds

HELP WANTED



Septic Inspector (Full-Time, 35 hours/week) \$29.35 Building Department

Reporting to the Chief Building Official, this position is responsible for exercising powers and performing duties under the Building Code Act, Ontario Building Code and other applicable law and related regulations. This position will be responsible for reviewing plans, issuing permits and performing site inspections as it relates to Part 8 Septic. Assists with conducting the septic re-inspection program for the municipality. Provides assistance to the summer students hired to support the program. Provides customer service to the general public & contractors to answer septic permit application inquiries and septic re-inspection inquiries.

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications **clearly marked "Application –Septic Inspector"** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m., Monday, July 15th, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer Municipality of Highlands East P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road Wilberforce, ON KOL 3C0

Fax: 705-448-2532 E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer.

Applicant information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualifications for employment with the Municipality of Highlands East. Questions about this collection should be directed to Brittany McCaw CAO/Treasurer.



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires a Permanent Truck Driver/Equipment Operator

Truck Driver/Equipment Operators are responsible for the safe operation of heavy equipment such as a trucks, backhoes, loaders, and wing plows. This position is responsible for maintaining roads, ditching, excavating culverts, and brushing.

Successful applicants will possess an DZ/AZ licence and have experience operating heavy equipment. This position requires an ability to work on call hours and respond to short notice call ins, and good judgment and communication skills. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$27.80. This position includes participation in the OMERS defined benefit pension program and employer paid extended health benefits.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to kdams@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than July 16, 2024, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



Staanworth

Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation is Currently Seeking A Full-Time Property Manager

Established in 1984, Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation has been providing affordable housing opportunities for independent living in Minden Hills. Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation includes two apartment buildings and a neighborhood of 20 townhouses, totaling 74 units. Under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, the PROPERTY MANAGER is totally accountable for the daily, monthly and annual operations. This job scope will include supervising staff, ensuring a high standard of building and grounds maintenance, budgeting, bookkeeping, meeting legal requirements and interacting with our tenants in a kind, courteous manner to ensure a safe, high quality living environment.

Preference will be given to candidates who have:

- Experience with Rent Geared to Income Calculations (RGI), Rent Collection and Arrears Management
- Knowledge of the Residential Tenancies Act, Housing Services Act and the Landlord Tenant
- Proficient in computer skills, specifically NewViews property management software
- Knowledge of codes, regulations, including Fire Code, Building Code, Occupational Health & Safety Act
- Knowledge and understanding of building systems (HVAC, Fire Protection, Mechanical, Electrical)

Desired Attributes and Competencies:

- Time & Priority Management
- Project Management Analyzing all aspects of a situation to make consistently sound and timely decisions
- Teamwork Motivating others to meet objectives

What We Offer:

- Friendly and inviting workspace, conveniently located in Minden Hills
- Competitive compensation and employee benefits package including OMERS Pension Plan
- An opportunity to contribute to the work of a not-for-profit organization that fosters innovative thinking and the chance to be a part of a workplace culture that values collaboration, community, and resourcefulness
- Full time salaried position

TO APPLY

- Interested applicants are invited to submit their cover letter and resumé by noon, Friday, July 12th to staanworthprez@gmail.com (Job description available upon request)
- Successful applicants must have a valid driver's license and provide a Police Record Check
- We thank all applicants who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted
- Position available September 3rd, 2024

REPUTABLE BUILDING CONTRACTOR looking for a person with Carpentry Experience. Must have valid driver's license. Please call 705-754-4603.

TOW TRUCK DRIVER - West Guilford Towing is looking to add a motivated, hard working tow truck driver to our team. If you're looking for a one of a kind career, this is for you. Clean police check required. We provide job training. All enquiries will be kept confidential. Call 705-754-3780 or email resume to wgtr@outlook.com

EVENT

HIGHLAND STORM HOCKEY to host FREE Equipment day at A.J. LaRue Arena. Sunday, August 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine. The public is asked to drop off gently used hockey equipment between now and the event, at Emmerson Lumber locations or the Minden Fire Hall. Please pack everything in large plastic bags. In exchange for the free equipment, requesting parents to bring a non-perishable food item to contribute to the local food bank.

WANTED

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

Highlander puzzles 31

Abode for a Buck

by Barbara Olson © ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Top cop grp.
- 5 Lightning word in comics
- 8 B.C. clock setting
- 11 Word from a romantic Roman
- 14 Call to a fellow sailor
- 16 Plato's P
- 17 Quill successor
- 18 Local buffoon
- 20 Alternative to Trish, maybe
- 21 Top credit roll listings
- 22 Shut in, as a parrot
- 24 Belgium's third-largest city
- 25 Captain of the ill-fated Endurance
- 29 Masculine "a", in Munich
- 30 Stands in the way of
- 32 Tape for later, in a way
- **33** Word of mouth, in law
- **34** ¿Cómo está ____? (Spanish greeting)
- 35 Prime Minister's appointees
- **41** Zut !
- 42 Diet à la caveman
- 43 "Welcome ____" (film set in a Calif. city)
- 44 Cooked till crunchy
- 47 Gas guzzling stat.
- 50 Communal sect of southern Alberta
- 52 Heart of Québec?
- 54 Backspace over
- 55 Repeated chant
- **56** "Takin' Care of Business" grp.
- 58 They make a buck, and what this puzzle contains (Hint: see the starts to the longest across answers)
- 61 What quoth the raven?
- 62 Dock workers' union: Abbr.
- **63** Footwear for Fred Astaire
- **64** Made in this ctry.
- **65** 1958 song "____ Blu, Dipinto di Blu"
- 66 "You called?"
- 67 Earth: Ger.

Down

- 1 Savagely sack
- 2 Vodka Piña Colada 3 Like flowing lava
- 4 Traffic cone

- 5 Zig's partners
- 6 Had the bun?
- 7 Potato-producing prov.
- 8 Part of 7-Down
- **9** Finger-in-socket effects
- 10 Bill's last line
- 11 Good thing to bring to the table
- **12** "Give ____ break!"
- 13 Kapuskasing's prov.
- 15 "Little green men"
- 23 Succeeds in needling
- 25 Catch sight of
- **26** It's in a captain's wheelhouse
- 27 Double-sided page word, maybe
- 28 Unspoken agreements
- 31 Soldier's food, for short
- 33 Cap'n Crunch or Yosemite Sam
- 34 Listings on Vroom
- 35 Pope's rel.
- 36 Baseball's Jesus

- 37 Gobble on the go
- 38 ___ dixit (unproven claim)
 - 39 Grabs a few winks
 - 40 Island in the Gaspésie?
 - 44 New Orleans cuisine
 - 45 Ceremonial act
 - 46 Route, in Rome
 - 47 Night sky sight in August, often
 - 48 Sounded like a content cat
 - **49** Canadian sprinter Andre De
 - 51 Like Santa's helpers
 - 53 Corn-cob connector
 - 55 Classroom wall hangings
 - 56 Secretly loop in
 - 57 Tiny bit
 - 59 Amt.
 - 60 Sheik's fed.



Highlander sudoku is sponsored by



Natural gardens and shorelines designed and installed



For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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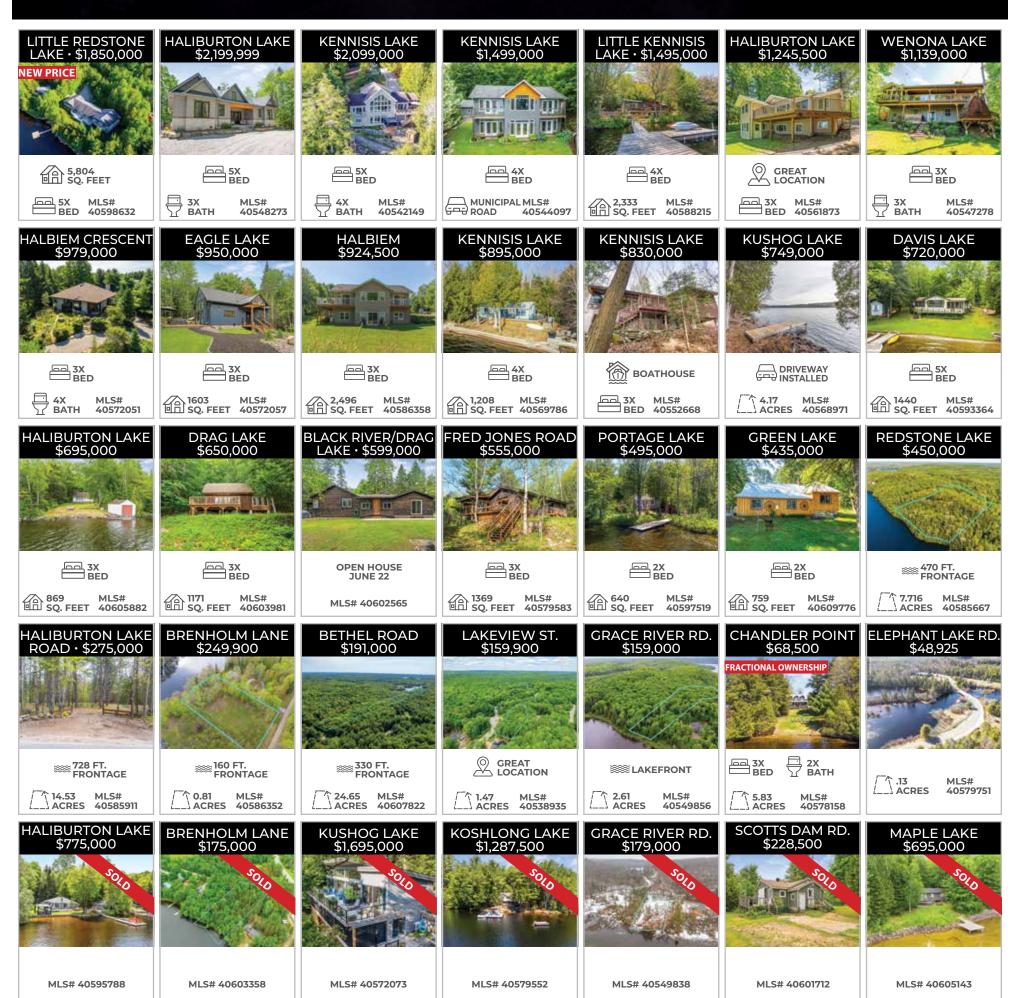




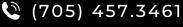
Wild Life Show, Face Paintng & Baloons (10am-1pm) Kids (under 3) - FREE · Kids 3-13 \$5 · All 14+ \$10 9712 Gelert Road, Haliburton



BAUMGARTNER REALTY GROUP



Linda Baumgartner - Broker of Record | Owner



@ contact@baumgartnerrealty.ca

www.baumgartnerrealty.ca

